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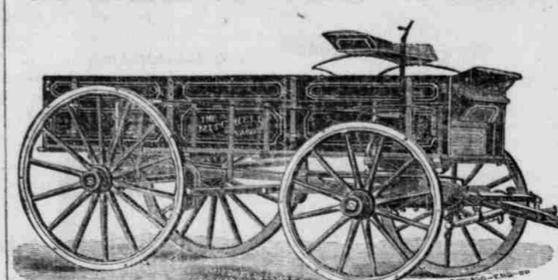
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A CIRCUS NOVELTY.

Description of the Amusing Entertainments Given at the New Circus in Paris.

The new circus is a most remarkable novelty. It combines gymnastics and aquatic. It exhibits both riding and swimming. It is the home of the mermaid as well as of the centaur. In appearance the new circus is like no other circus. The spectator takes his seat on one of the series of revolving benches which arise from the ring to the other walls of the building. The only peculiarity to attract immediate attention is the huge cocoon mat which covers the ring in place of the usual tan bark. The programme is divided into three parts, and of these the first two are not unlike those in other circuses. There is a dog acrobat which turns somersaults, and rolls a barrel, and stands on his forelegs on a word, and shams dead. There is a clown who exhibits a performing pig, which is ridden by a monkey, and which jumps over hurdles and through a paper hoop. There is another clown, on whose particular dress you note the arms of Great Britain and the United States. A great many of the circus performers one sees in Europe are Americans, and the clowns always speak English. There is a group of performing elephants, the youngest of which wears a clown's hat. There is an acrobat who hangs by his heels. There are tiger-horses, exhibited by M. Loyal—mighty Percheron horses, strangely spotted and striped. There is the usual assortment of riders, doing the pad and the bare-back act and the *manege* act.

After all these have been seen, the ring is cleared. The huge cocoon mat is rolled into a long cylinder, and a queer four-wheeled truck is drawn into the ring, astraddle of the rolled mat, which is then strapped to the truck. All hands then pull away the truck and its load through the entrance door and out of sight. Thus the bare boards of the ring are exposed to view, and they are seen to be pierced with numberless holes. An enormous glass globe containing a powerful electric light is next placed in the center of the ring, which is then cleared, and its low doors are closed. The interested spectator, watching all these preparations, next hears a sound of machinery, and the boards of the ring tremble a little, and then begin to descend. There is a sound of pouring water, and water streams up through every hole in the flooring. In less than a minute the flat ring has been changed to a deep tank, the water of which is lighted and made transparent by the large electric lamp, now descended to the bottom. This sudden transformation is effected by ingenious machinery, which pulls down into the swimming tank the frame-work of the flooring of the ring.

Within the water there is suddenly to be seen a swimming figure, and then another and another and another becomes visible, until there are half a dozen who have most gracefully appeared. While the transformation is taking place the swimmers are in the water just outside of the ring and under the audience. As soon as the floor of the ring has sunk to the bottom of the tank, the swimmers, one after another, dive under the cross braces and reveal themselves in the tank. It was Prof. Johnson and his seven daughters—an English family—who gave the aquatic entertainment on the evening I spent at the New Circus. A large mattress was placed in the center of the tank, and a spring board at one of the entrances. The gymnasts turned somersaults from the spring-board tried to land on their feet on the mattress, whence they might walk ashore dry-shod over the plank. Failing to reach the mattress, they were ducked in the pond. It is easy to imagine what fun the clowns make out of their aquatic misadventures and misfortunes.—*Arthur Penn, in Harper's Young People.*

THE SHEPHERD DOG.
Kindness and Patience the Principle Rules for His Training.

Within the puppy from the time he is one month old; train him to know what you want him to do, by kindness; show him what you want done, and then kindly but firmly keep him at his task until he has learned it. Fiddle and pet him for duty well performed and the next time he will do it with greater alacrity and pleasure. Talk to him as you would to a child and you will be surprised to note how well he understands you. A few lessons will serve to teach him from your manner the difference between right and left, "go" and "come," and "walk," "quick" and "slow." If your pup is intelligent, it will take only a short time to teach him the above lessons. I have seen pups six weeks old keep stock from coming through an open gate. The shepherd pup is much like a child; he is a great imitator. I know a pup six months old that can tell as well as his master if his fourteen cows are in the lot at milking time. The owner of this pup told me that one evening when he supposed the cows were all in the pup caught the gate which he was closing and pulled it open and then started on a run and brought in another cow that had not been missed. Didn't that pup know thirteen from fourteen? Don't abuse your dog. Give the most intelligent pup on earth to a coarse, brutal master, and I guarantee he will turn out a worthless cur. Kindness to animals is as much a duty as kindness to our fellow men. It is as natural for a well-bred, intelligent Scotch shepherd dog to work as to eat, and the only rules for his training are to be kind, patient and faithful in your instruction.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

—The man who never committed a folly never appreciated wisdom.—*Whitehall Times.*

THE HUMAN HAND.

A Nice Little Lecture for Boys and Girls and Some Old Folks, Too.

Young people have a great deal of trouble with their hands, and commit many faults with them. When they go upon the platform to speak a piece, they know not what to do with those iron combs and superfluous appendages, unless some good teacher of elocution has told them; and then it is hard to obey his injunction to "let them alone."

Just to let them hang quietly and naturally by the side most of the time, is very difficult for a tyro. A boy's impulse is to get hold of his coat, fumble with his watch-chain, or make gestures which add no force to his words. An old teacher of elocution has given this excellent rule: "When your hands have nothing to do, do nothing with them; let them hang."

Some boys, yes, and some girls, too, have a world of trouble in keeping their hands clean. Probably, on this very day, in the United States, one hundred thousand mothers have spoken words like these, in various to es: "Johnny, what dreadful hands to come to the table with! Go and wash them, sir, at once!" Johnny gazes ruefully at what his elder sister calls his "horrid paws," and wonders how they could have acquired their dismal hue. It is a mystery. He started clean in the morning; at least, he thought he did, and he has only been to school. Yet look at his hands! Black as a charcoal dealer's, with nails fearfully bearded. Many boys wonder, naturally enough, how grown people keep their hands clean all day without taking much trouble about it. Boys handle every thing, whether clean or dirty, and half of them do not know how to wash their hands, or how to wipe them dry. Hands well-washed and perfectly dried will keep clean four times as long as hands half-washed and half-dried. Nails, too, are much more easily kept in good order if they are attended to frequently and with care and thoroughness.

Many, indeed, are the faults of the hands. One of the worst is pointing the finger of scorn at the faults of others. Biting the thumb was the Italian method of expressing contempt in the days of Romeo and Juliet, the tragedy of whose lives began with their servants biting their thumbs at one another. It is with the hands that boys pinch, scratch, fight and steal. Handlets called his hands "pickers and stealers." But, then, what beautiful and wonderful things the human hand can do! what lovely pictures it can paint; what enchanting music it can play; what valiant deeds it can do; what kind acts it can perform! Best of all, it can lift up the fallen, and welcome back to hope and new effort the repentant wanderer from the path of rectitude. We said the other week, that knowing teachers often judge of the quality of their pupils by looking at their mouths. But the hands, too, have a tale to tell and sometimes they tell very plainly.—*Youth's Companion.*

SMUT IN CORN.

Its Prevention Effectuated by Soaking the Seed in a Copper Sulphate Solution.

Smut in corn is fast becoming a prevailing evil, injuring the crops and poisoning the fodder and the cattle which consume it. Its nature is worth study, so that some remedy can be found for it. It is a pure parasitic disease, no doubt, which affects every part of the plant and is able to infect the seed and the soil as the plant itself. In fact the evidence goes to show that every part of the plant is infected, for the outburst of the seed of the fungus appears in every part, the roots, stem, leaves, flowers and seed being all more or less affected. The soil can not help but be infected by the large quantity of smut left upon it in the debris of the crop and that brought by the winds and washed down by the rains from the air in which it floats. The smut of corn is precisely like that of wheat or oats in its prominent characteristics and differs from the latter in some invisible points only, and the means for eradicating this which are used with effect with the smaller grains may be used equally with corn. We have been experimenting with corn smut for some years and have found the soaking of seed in a solution of sulphate of copper or one of chloride of potash—the common muriate of potash used as a fertilizer—has the same effect in preventing smut in the crop as it has with wheat and oats.—*N. Y. Times.*

—How inconsistent most persons are! You shoot off a pun, a brand-new one possibly, and you are threatened with instant annihilation, but the same man who thus objects will spend a dollar and a half and three hours at the theater listening to the most archaic of word-twisting, laugh uproariously at every pun, and next stay retail all he can remember to his friends and acquaintances. As Colonel Ingersoll once remarked, there's something wrong somewhere.—*Philadelphia Press.*

—John Monroe, a young man living with his widowed sister, Mrs. W. H. Green, in the northern part of Georgia, found the other day \$1,480 in gold buried in the cellar, money that was laid away and lost during the war, over twenty years ago, by Mrs. Green's husband. Monroe was moved merely by impulse to dig in the cellar.

—Mrs. Cignavali, the woman who murdered her husband in New York in order that she might marry another man, practiced two weeks under the instructions of her lover in order that she might make sure of her aim when the time came.—*N. Y. Sun.*

LINCOLN'S CAREER.

The Three Principal Periods of the Great Statesman's Life.

We shall see in the course of the present work how the life of Abraham Lincoln divides itself into three principal periods, with corresponding stages of his intellectual development; the first, of about forty years, ending with his term in Congress; the second, of about ten years, concluding with his final campaign of political speech-making in New York and New England, shortly before the Presidential nominations of 1860; and the last of about five years, terminating at his death. We have thus far traced his career through the first period of forty years. In the several stages of frontier experience through which he had passed, and which in the main but repeated the trials and vicissitudes of thousands of other boys and youths in the West, only so much individually had been developed in him as brought him into the leading class of his contemporaries. He had risen from laborer to student, from clerk to lawyer, from politician to legislator. That he had lifted himself by healthy ambition and unaided industry out of the station of a farm-hand, whose routine life begins and ends in a back-woods log-cabin, to that representative character and authority which seated him in the National Capitol to aid in framing laws for his country, was already an achievement that may well be held honorably to crown a career of forty years.

Such achievement and such distinction, however, were not so uncommon as to appear phenomenal. Hundreds of other boys, born in log-cabins, had won similar elevation in the many, practical schools of Western public life. Even in ordinary times there still remained within the reach of average intellects several higher grades of public service. It is quite probable that the superior talents of Lincoln would have made him Governor of Illinois or given him a term in the United States Senate. But the story of his life would not have commanded, as it now does, the unflinching attention of posterity had there not fallen upon his generation the usual conditions and opportunities brought about by a series of remarkable convulsions in National politics. If we would correctly understand how Lincoln became, first a conspicuous actor, and then a chosen leader, in a great strife of National parties for supremacy and power, we must briefly study the origin and development of the great slavery controversy in American legislation which found its highest activity and decisive culmination in the single decade from 1850 to 1860.

We should greatly err, however, if we attributed the new events in Lincoln's career to the caprices of fortune. The conditions and opportunities of which we speak were broadly National, and open to all without restriction of rank or locality. Many of his contemporaries had seemingly overshadowing advantages, by prominence and training, to seize and appropriate them to their own advancement. It is precisely this careful study of the times which shows us by what inevitable process of selection honors and labors of which he did not dream fell upon him; how, indeed, it was not the individual who gained the prize, but the paramount duty which claimed the man.—*Nicolay and Hay, in Century.*

DUNDER'S SAYINGS.

The Observations of One Who Looks at the World with Experienced Eyes.

I don't believe half I hear—only what I see. I don't believe all I see, and more, too.

Der fact dot our neighbor can haf a new coat while we haf to wear our old one vhas plenty excuse to hate him.

When a young man who vhas out of work and money and in rags comes to you for help, tell him "dere vhas room at der top." It vhas good advice—and verry sheap.

If somebody robs me of two cents I vphant him arrested for der principle of it. Der smaller der sum der more I set for principle. You can buy a whole car-load of it for a cent.

When a man begins to pelief dot he owns der earth, it vhas time to put him up for candidate for constable and let him see how few admirers he has.

When I meet a man who hungers to reform der human race, I took notis dot he vhas somebody who vhas tired of honest labor, or he vhas scart out of a wicked career by der police.

When I goes into a grocery and sees der sign dot honesty vhas der best policy, I don't buy some coffee dere. I am sure to be half cheery.

If we lose a dollar, on der street we vhas madt because der finder vhas not honest enough to return it. If we find fife dollar we feel dot der owner ought to lose it for his carelessness.

If you gif somebody advice find out first how he believes, and den make your advice to agree with it. Der man whose advice doan' tally mit our opinions vhas no good.

I doan' shudge a Christian man by der length of his prayers, or der loudness of his song. Der question vhas if he pays his debts and keeps his hens mit his own yard.

If we vhas in der coal peessure and giving eighteen hooneered pounds for a don, we keep an eye on der wood man dot he gif full measure mit his wood.

If I vhas a good man I like to half der fact fact off my tombstone. Der graveyard critie gif nobody credit.

Anticipation vhas a big dinner which we eat up and shall feel hungry all oafter.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—Steam pipes, by a local ordinance, must be kept at a distance of three inches from any woodwork in San Francisco.

WONDERFUL TOWERS.

Some of the Most Remarkable Structures of the Kind in the World.

The ancient city of Pisa, Italy, is famous for its lofty and magnificent structures, some of which have very interesting stories. None of them, however, is so wonderful as the celebrated leaning tower. This building was commenced in 1174 by a Pisan architect, named Bonanno, by William of Innsbruck. It is of cylindrical form, one hundred and seventy-nine feet high, fifty feet in diameter, and leans twelve feet nine inches from the perpendicular. It consists of eight stories, each of which has an outside gallery projecting from it. From the summit, which is reached by several hundred steps, a beautiful and extensive view may be had of the surrounding country. The misconstruction was discovered before the tower was finished, and the upper tiers were so shaped as to partly counteract the attraction. At the top of the tower seven immense bells were so placed, as by their weight, to counterbalance the leaning of the tower.

The highest tower in the world is at Cremona, in Northern Italy; it is three hundred and ninety-six feet high. It was begun in 1228, and the bells which are in it were cast in 1578. An astronomical clock, made in the year 1594, is placed in the third story.

The Florentine campanile was commenced in 1254, by Giotto, the great painter, architect and sculptor. He commenced the erection of the tower with the determination to surpass all the ancient structures of this kind, both in height and in richness of design. But Giotto, having died in 1286, the tower was completed by Taddeo Gaddi. Its height is two hundred and seventy-six feet, and it is divided into four tiers. It is of equal dimensions from bottom to top, and is built on the Italian Gothic style. On the basement floor there are two rows of tablets in relief; they are the work of Giotto. There are also many beautiful statues on the upper tier. It was the original design of Giotto to have a spire surmount the present tower, and the columns which were to support it may still be seen on the top of the building.

The famous tower known as Giralda, is situated at Seville, Spain. This tower when originally built by Phillip Guevara, the Moor, was only two hundred and fifty feet high. But in 1568 a magnificent belfry one hundred feet high was added, and it is now the second highest in the world.

The campanile was called Giralda, because of the brazen weathercock in its top story. Although the figure weighs a ton and a half, it is easily turned by the wind. It is said that a very fine campanile was situated at Salisbury, England. It is supposed to have been two hundred feet high, and was probably destroyed by Sir Thomas Wyatt, the younger, while leading an insurrectionary mob.—*Louisville (Ky.) Outlook.*

Some Mitigating Circumstances.

"See here, Jones, I want to talk to you a moment," said an Austin philanthropist; "don't you know you are not doing your duty by your children in not sending them to school? That's not the way a fond father should treat his children."

"Well, now, I don't know about that," replied Jones. "I don't believe you fully realize what you are talking about. Now, I have a brother whose oldest son was sent up for two years for horse-stealing, and the judge, in sentencing him, said that his ignorance and lack of early education were strong mitigating circumstances in the case; and instead of making the sentence ten years, which he would have done had the boy never received any education, he would only make it two. Now, do you suppose I am going to rob my boys of those mitigating circumstances that have already been such a bonanza in the family? No, sir; before I do, I hope my right arm will cleave to the roof of my mouth!"—*Texas Siftings.*

Toothsome Boiled Bread.

A writer in a housekeeping journal affirms that bread can be boiled instead of baking it and with far less heat of the range. The new method consists mainly in steaming the dough instead of cooking it in the oven. It is claimed that this is a great invention, as it saves the time and experience necessary to get the oven to the right heat for baking, which has always proved the great obstacle to baking at home.

The utensils required are simple these: First a tin mould, or camp-kettle, in which the dough is placed after it has been mixed with the usual ingredients—water, yeast, sugar and salt—and secondly, a larger tin saucepan into which the mould fits. The water in the outer saucepan is allowed to boil around the lids of both utensils being kept closely down and at the end of that time the loaf may be turned out. It will be found firm, solid and palatable, with all the qualities of good bread.—*N. Y. World.*

—The Presbyterian General Assembly, of England, have forwarded a petition to Queen Victoria praying for protection to their mission work in the New Hebrides. It is pointed out that the missionaries have been successful in civilizing a large portion of the people of the New Hebrides. Nearly £180,000 has been expended in carrying on the work, in which sixteen missionaries and over one hundred native teachers and evangelists are engaged. The mission has made 9,000 converts to Christianity while 50,000 natives had been more or less civilized.